Objectionable comments in textbooks of Delhi University

†*76. SHRI SHREEGOPAL WAS:
SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BAL APTE:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

102 whether it is a fact that objectionable comments on History and Hindu Gods and Goddesses have been made in the textbooks of Delhi University;

102 whether any agitation is also going on against it; and

102 whether there is any proposal to make improvement in the textbooks?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (c) According to the information furnished by the University of Delhi, some organizations have objected to the inclusion of an essay titled Three Hundred Ramayans: Five Examples and Three Thoughts on Translation' by late Shri A.K. Ramanujan in the suggested readings for the concurrent course on 'Culture in India: Ancient' in the B.A. (Honours) programme of the University alleging that it contained derogatory references to the Hindu gods and goddesses. Though this essay does not form part of any textbook prescribed by the University, in view of the reservations expressed the University has constituted a Committee of eminent scholars, consisting of Prof. B.D. Chattopadhayaya, Prof. R.N. Mishra, Prof. M.G.S. Narayanan, Prof. Kapila Vatsyayan and Prof. M.K. Dhawalikar, to review the matter and give their views/opinion on it.

Misuse of funds under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

†*77. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

102 whether Government has received any information regarding misuse of funds by States under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan;

102 if so, the details thereof;

102 the details of the funds misused during the last three years, State-wise; and

102 the necessary action taken by Government to prevent such misuse and not to allot the funds to the States?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (c) The report on the performance audit of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), submitted by the Comptroller & Auditor General India 2005-06 for the period 2001 -02 to 2004-05 has classified an amount of about Rs. 6.8 crore in Assam, Rs. 15.8 crore in Bihar, Rs. 22.9 crore in Gujarat, Rs. 4.7 crore in karataka, Rs. 0.2 crore in Madhya Pradesh and Rs. 0.5 crore in

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Tamil Nadu as expenditure not covered under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) guidelines. The State Project Director SSA Andhra Pradesh informed that an amount of Rs. 14.98 crore of District Primary Education Programme (DPEP)/SSA had been diverted to unauthorized bank accounts by an assistant account officer of SSA Andhra Pradesh.

(d) Government of India issued instructions to the States/UTs to refund the above mentioned amount to States SSA account Rs. 5.5769 crore from Assam, Rs. 1.44 crore from Bihar, i Rs. 22.92 crore from Gujarat and Rs. 2.4392 crore from Karnataka have been recouped.

In Andhra Pradesh, an FIR has been lodged and the matter referred to the CID by the Government of Andhra Pradesh for further investigations. At the instance of Government of India, the State Government has suspended three account officials and transferred another three out of the State Project Office of SSA/DPEP.

The States/UTs have already been strictly instructed to avoid recurrence of such instances in future. Govt, of India is monitoring the use of SSA funds through annual States/UTs audits, independent concurrent financial reviews and field monitoring through 41 independent Monitoring Institutions.

Schemes for SC and ST Students

*78. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

102 whether it is a fact that Government is sponsoring various schemes through State Governments enable the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students to pursue their education;

102 if so, the details of the schemes and the funding pattern thereof and the funds released during 2005-06 and 2006-07;

102 whether it is also a fact that the implementation of the schemes has failed in the State due to improper planning, inefficient budgeting, poor-spervision, etc. especially in Andhra Pradesh; and

102 if so, the details of action taken by Government in this regard?

* THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

102the details of the schemes are given in the statement (See.below).

102 No Sir.

102Does not arise.